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of

FLEETWOOD

London

ANNUAL REPORT

1956

of

JOHN COLGAN, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Medical Officer of Health.

and

PHILIP J. FISHER, F.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.





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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : His Worship the Mayor, Councillor E. F. Michie.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. K. A. Huddleston.

Aldermen :

H. Blackburn, C.C.	E. A. Lawrence
J. I. Kennedy.	W. Ward.
W. Minns, J.P.	F. Wilkinson

Councillors :

H. A. Baker.	J. Longton.
S. E. Bond.	H. A. Pearce
R. F. Fyles	J. W. Robinson.
Mrs. E. M. Hope.	J. Shaw.
T. Johnstone	T. Smith.
J. S. Jones.	N. Walsh
Mrs. M. A. Jones	W. J. Wheeler
J. Keefe.	W. Wright.

Town Clerk : J. R. Barnes.

Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer :

J. Colgan, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Chief Public Health Inspector (Borough and Port) and Cleansing Superintendent :

*† P. J. Fisher, F.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Additional Inspectors :

‡ E. Whitehead, M.R.S.H.,

★** H. Farrer, Cert. S.J.B.

* J. Mitchell, M.R.S.H.

Clerks :

F. Swarbrick; Mrs. F. Swarbrick

* Also holds the Royal Society of Health's Certificate as a Meat and Food Inspector

★ Also holds the Royal Society of Health's Certificate as a Smoke Inspector

† Also appointed Inspectors under the Imported Food Regulations.

‡ Also appointed Shops' Inspector and Explosives' Officer.

Public Health Office,
Copse Road, Fleetwood,
August, 1957.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Fleetwood.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present my Thirty-fourth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District during the year ending 31st December, 1956, combined with that of the Chief Public Health Inspector. :- As indicated by the vital statistics it can be said that it has been a healthy year on the whole.

Births

The births numbered 501 during the year which is an increase of 29 compared with 1955.

The birth rate is 17.9, being an increase of 0.6 on the previous year. This figure still compares favourably with that for England and Wales which is 15.7.

Infantile Mortality

The infantile mortality rate was 24 per 1,000 births as against 33 last year and 23.8 for England and Wales.

It should be noted that of the twelve deaths under 1 year, 9 occurred in the first month of life, and all of these died during the first week after birth.

During 1956 there were four deaths from Congenital Malformations compared with five the previous year.

Maternal Mortality.

It is very pleasing to report that there were no deaths as a result of confinement during the year.

Heart and Allied Diseases

There is a satisfactory reduction to record this year, there being 146 deaths as against 231 in 1955.

Deaths from Cancer.

The death rate per 1,000 population in 1956 was 1.57, the average for the previous five years being 2.29. The average for the five years 1934-38 was only 1.36 per thousand of the population.

The number of deaths from this cause during 1956 (41) is the lowest recorded in the last five years and compares very favourably with the number recorded in 1955 (81).

During the five years the largest group of deaths was from cancer of the lung (59); the next largest group was from cancer of the stomach (49) with cancer of the breast coming third (34).

Lung cancer deaths during the year 1956 show a decided drop

The average number of deaths for the previous 4 years being 13.2 which in 1956 was reduced to 6 deaths. Breast cancer shows a similar reduction in 1956.

A table of distributed cancer deaths is inserted at page 17.

Infectious Diseases.

Diphtheria. It is again noteworthy that there were no cases of Diphtheria during the period under review, this is the fifth consecutive year in which no cases of this disease have occurred.

Poliomyelitis. During the year there was one case of the non-paralytic type.

Tuberculosis

There were 23 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis compared with 21 last year, and 2 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis compared with 4 the previous year.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

The number of known cases of dysentery has been more than halved compared with last year, but I am satisfied that if more care was exercised in food handling, particularly in the home, both these and food poisoning would be considerably reduced.

Overcrowding

The Housing Committee and the officers responsible for carrying out their policy continue to deal with this problem in a realistic manner particularly regarding those families in which there have been cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Road Accidents.

It is regrettable to have to report that there was one death during the year from a road accident.

I am greatly obliged to the local Medical Practitioners for their helpful co-operation at all times.

Staff.

I greatly appreciate the co-operation of the Public Health Inspectors and the clerical staff at the Public Health department and the manner in which they have carried out their various duties during the year.

J. COLGAN,
Medical Officer of Health

Statistical Summary

General Statistics

Area (Acres) Land	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2,636
Foreshore and Sea	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	3,644
Population (R.G. Estimate, June, 1956)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	28,000
Number of Inhabited Houses (per Rate Books)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7,461
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1951)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	7,415
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	£351,231
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	£1,400
Total Rates	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	17/-

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year

		Total	Male	Female
Live Births—Legitimate	....	484	238	246
Illegitimate	....	17	11	6
Stillbirths	....	9	4	5
Deaths	....	357	202	155
Crude Death Rate	....	....	....	12.8
Adjusted Death Rate	....	....	....	12.9
Respiratory T. B.	....	....	....	0.18
Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	....	....	....	1.57
Crude Birth Rates	....	....	....	17.9
Adjusted Birth Rate	....	....	....	18.4
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Total Births	....	....	....	18.0
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 total births	....	....	....	—
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	....	....	....	24.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	....	....	....	18.0

ACTS, BYE-LAWS, AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (part).

The Public Health Act, 1925 (part)

Bye-laws with respect to New Street and Buildings made in 1939.

Shell Fish Order 1939.

Byelaws with respect to the handling etc. of Food 1950.

The Fleetwood Improvement and Market Act, 1842.

Fleetwood Improvement Act, 1893.

Whirligigs and Swings 1896.

Fleetwood Urban District Council Act, 1902

Fleetwood Urban District Council Act, 1927.

Physical Features

Fleetwood is situated within the Fylde District. Lying at the mouth of the River Wyre, it is a seaport and market town. The area is bounded on the North by Morecambe Bay, on the west by the Irish Sea, on the east by the River Wyre, and on the south by the Urban District of Thornton Cleveleys.

Most of the land is low-lying; the subsoil varies from sand and gravel near the coast to heavy marl. The principal industry is Deep Sea Fishing, with its contingent industries: it is also a seaside resort of considerable importance.

The area of the Fleetwood Sanitary District is 6,280 statute acres. The Borough is divided into six wards, the areas of which are set out below:—

					Acres
Pharos Ward	...	...	...	...	845
Mount Ward	...	...	...	...	75.5
Milton Ward	...	...	...	...	72.5
Warren Ward	...	...	...	...	115
Park Ward	...	...	...	...	688
Rossall Ward	...	...	...	...	840
<hr/>					
Total	...	...	...	...	2,636
Foreshore and Sea Area				...	3,644
<hr/>					<u>6,280</u>

General Provision of Health Services

Bacteriological Examinations

Facilities for the examination of specimens, by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Monsall, Manchester, Pathological Departments: Blackpool Victoria Hospital and Royal Infirmary, Preston, are available for all medical practitioners in the district without charge.

Midwives

There are four midwives in the district under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

Clinic and Treatment Centres

There are no clinics or treatment centres under the direct control of this Authority.

The Child Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics are both under the control of the Lancashire County Council and are situated in Ribble Road.

The venereal disease treatment centres are at Preston Royal Infirmary and Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

Fleetwood Chest Clinic, Poulton Road. Session 9.30 a.m. each Wednesday.

Hospitals

Fleetwood hospital, contains 28 beds and four cots, for cases of general sickness and accidents, but being one of the units of the 3rd District, patients can be and are sent or transferred to any suitable Hospital within the district.

For infectious diseases there is the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Blackpool.

For smallpox cases, the Smallpox Hospital at Elswick, containing 30 beds, is available.

Milton Lodge Maternity Home, of 11 beds is fully occupied and provides an important Service.

Rossall Hospital with 130 beds and Wesham Park Hospital with 352 beds, are available for the chronic sick of all ages.

Ambulance Facilities

For both infectious and non-infectious cases the Lancashire County Council keep available within the district two motor ambulances and one car for sitting cases.

The Education (Administration Provisions) Act, 1907

Under this Act the County Council is the responsible Authority, and their Medical Officers make the examination of the children attending the Council Schools.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 47

It was not necessary to take any official action during the year, but all cases of aged persons without proper care and attention were referred to the Divisional Health Authority for the necessary action.

Population

The resident population of Fleetwood to June 1956, is estimated to be 28,000, an increase of 475 over the 1951 Census figures. The increase during the year of births over deaths was 144.

Births

Boys—249. Girls—252. Total—501.

The number of births registered in the district was 434, in addition to these 67, belonging to the district but registered elsewhere have been added, making a total of 501.

This gives a birth-rate of 17·9 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 17·3 for the previous year.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population for the whole of England and Wales for 1956 was 15·7

Illegitimate Births and Deaths

There were 17 illegitimate births, giving a percentage of 3·39 of the total births. In 1955 the number was 19, with a percentage of 3·73 of the total births.

The number of deaths of illegitimate children under one year was nil.

Infant Mortality for the Past Five Years

Year	Under 1 week	1-2	2-3	3-4	Total under 1 month	1-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	Total under 1 year	Death-rate per 1,000		
		wks.	wks.	wks.		mos.	mos.	mos.	mos.		Fleet- wood	Engl'd and Wales	Lancs. County
1952	13	—	1	2	16	1	4	—	1	22	49	27.6	30
1953	7	—	—	1	8	5	2	2	1	18	37	26.8	29
1954	5	—	—	—	5	3	2	—	1	11	25	25.5	29
1955	11	2	1	—	14	1	1	—	—	16	33	24.9	27
1956	9	—	—	—	9	2	1	—	—	12	24	23.8	—

The mean infantile death-rate for the district for the five years 1952 to 1956 being 33.6 per 1,000 births, compared with the:- County 28.8, England and Wales 25.7

Infant Mortality during the Year 1956

Net Deaths from stated causes at Various Ages under One Year of Age

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All Causes:										
Certified	9	—	—	—	9	2	1	—	—	12
Uncertified (including Inquests)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	....	....	9	—	—	9	2	12
Net deaths under one year:—										
Legitimate	238	246	484	Total	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total	12
Illegitimate	11	6	17		....	....	....	....	....	—
	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—
	249	252	501		4	8	4	8	—	12
	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—

Deaths

Males—202. Females—155 Total 357

The number of deaths registered in the district was 296, but deducting 9 deaths of persons not usually resident in this district, and adding 70 deaths of residents which occurred in other districts, the corrected number is 357.

This gives a crude death-rate of 12·8 per 1,000 of the population compared with 15·2 in 1955. The adjusted death-rate being 12·9.

The death-rate of the deaths actually occurring in the district, viz., 296, was 10·57 per 1,000.

Uncertified Deaths and Inquests

During the year there were 23 deaths (15 males and 8 females) registered in which the cause of death was not certified by any medical practitioner. An inquest was held in 8 cases, and the verdicts given by the Coroner were as follows :—

Misadventure	....	....	....	....	4
Suicide	....	....	....	....	3
Accidental	....	....	....	....	1

Deaths in Institutions

During the year, 126 persons died in the Rossall Hospital, and in the Fleetwood Hospital. These deaths have been distributed to the districts in which the persons were usually resident.

Causes of Death during the Year 1956

					Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis	Respiratory	....	....	....	5	—	5
,,	Other	....	....	....	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	....	....	....	....	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Measles	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	....	....	....	....	4	5	9
,,	,, Lung, Bronchus	....	....	....	4	2	6
,,	,, Breast	....	....	....	—	1	1
,,	,, Uterus	....	....	....	—	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	....	....	....	....	15	9	24
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	....	....	....	....	2	1	3
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	1	3	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	....	....	....	....	24	27	51
Coronary disease, angina	....	....	....	....	27	11	38
Hypertension with heart disease	....	....	....	....	5	7	12
Other heart disease	....	....	....	....	49	47	96
Other circulatory diseases	....	....	....	....	9	5	14
Influenza	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	5	1	6
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	23	3	26
Other diseases of respiratory system	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	....	....	....	....	2	3	5
Gastritis, enteritis and Diarrhoea,	....	....	....	....	—	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	....	....	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	....	....	2	—	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	....	....	....	....	—	4	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	....	....	....	....	12	17	29
Motor vehicle accidents	....	....	....	....	1	—	1
All other accidents	....	....	....	....	5	3	8
Suicide	....	....	....	....	3	—	3
Homicide	....	....	....	....	—	—	—
Totals	....	....	....	....	202	155	357

Infectious Diseases

Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases

Smallpox	....	....	....	....	....	—
Measles	....	....	....	....	—	—
Scarlet fever	....	....	....	....	—	—
Whooping cough	....	....	....	....	—	—
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	—	—
Enteric fever	....	....	....	....	—	—
Diarrhoea	....	....	....	....	—	1

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, 226 cases were notified.
The following is a detailed list of the several diseases :—

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1956

Notifiable Disease	Total cases at all ages	Total cases notified										Total cases removed to Hospital	Total deaths
		At ages—Years											
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 and over			
Scarlet fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough	155	20	12	18	26	18	56	4	1	—	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, „ Non-Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Measles	4	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	23	—	2	1	2	—	6	2	4	6	1	—	—
Meningococcal infection	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		Under 5	5 to 15	15 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over							
Acute Pneumonia	5	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
(primary & influenzal)													
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis: infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
post infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	23	—	—	13	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	18	5
Meninges & Cns.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Puerperal pyrexia	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Other notifiable diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	226										30	11	

Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

It is pleasing to report that for the fifth consecutive year there were no notified cases of diphtheria within the Borough.

There were only 3 cases of scarlet fever notified and these received treatment at home.

Dysentery

There were two main outbreaks (23) occurring between February and September.

Tuberculosis

The number of cases notified was 23 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary.

The number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis was 5, and from other forms of tuberculosis nil, a total of 5 (5 males) giving a death-rate of 0·17 per 1,000.

Those from lung tubercle give a death-rate of 0·18 per 1,000.

The number of cases receiving sanatorium treatment during the year was 23.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory.

Respiratory Organs

The deaths numbered 33, giving a death-rate of 1·17 and include those from bronchitis (26) and pneumonia (6).

Organic Heart Disease

One hundred and forty six deaths, giving a death-rate of 5·21 per 1,000

Malignant Disease (Cancer)

There were 41 deaths from cancer (23 males, 18 females), giving a rate of 1·57 per 1,000.

Table of Deaths from Cancer for 5 years

	1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		Tls.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Mouth & Tongue	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	4
Oesophagus....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Stomach	6	2	4	3	6	6	5	7	5	5	49
Small Intestine	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Colon	2	2	5	3	3	7	1	2	1	2	28
Rectum	2	3	2	3	2	3	4	3	3	2	27
Genital Organs	—	8	—	7	—	3	—	3	—	3	24
Breast	—	7	—	8	—	7	—	11	—	1	34
Ovary	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	4
Prostate	—	—	6	—	3	—	2	—	3	—	14
Pharynx & Larynx	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	1	1	—	7
Lung	7	1	12	5	11	2	15	—	4	2	59
Liver & Gall Bladder	—	6	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	13
Pancreas	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	2	1	—	7
Ur. Bladder	—	2	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	8
Kidney	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Brain	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	5
Skin	—	2	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	7
Thyroid	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bone	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3
Sarcoma	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	6
Other Neoplasms	—	—	—	—	1	6	7	6	1	—	21
Totals	22	33	37	38	36	41	44	37	23	18	
Death Rate (R-G)	....	2.00	2.76		2.76		3.01		1.57		

Infectious Diseases

Visits to the number of 81 were made to cases of infectious diseases during the year, 14 school notices and certificates were issued.

Disinfection has been carried out as in previous years by spraying and fumigating the infected rooms with formalin and treating infected bedding and clothing by steam at the Town's Depot. The steam disinfecter is also available for treating infected or verminous clothes, beds, etc., from the ships whilst in the docks.

During the year, 176 rooms and 403 articles were disinfected; 225 articles were destroyed.

Sanitary Circumstances Water Supply

Is upland water, obtained from the Fylde Water Board, collected at Grizedale and Stocks reservoirs, and is satisfactory as regards both quality and quantity.

Frequent samples are submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis, the results are invariably satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage

The populated part of the district is well provided with main sewers, although such sewers are heavily surcharged during periods of storm. A large portion of the undeveloped area is also seweraged in anticipation of further building developments.

The Council have in progress a major sewerage scheme which it is hoped, when completed, will prevent flooding in the low lying portions of the district.

There is need for a satisfactory drainage and sewerage disposal system at Springfield to cope with the twelve houses in that area.

A number of the food preparation premises in the Copse Road area are not connected to a sewer. Each individual works being provided with a septic tank, the effluent from which flows into Copse Brook.

The Council have completed the laying of a sewer in Copse Road. This should considerably improve the condition of Copse Brook.

Sewerage is carried by gravitation to a pumping station situated on the west coast where it is screened and raised into a high-level tank and discharged untreated into the sea on the ebb tide.

Food

All meat is supplied to the area from the Public Abattoirs at Blackpool, where it is inspected. The Food Preparation Premises are regularly inspected and are generally satisfactory. Regular visits are also paid to Food Stalls at the Public Market.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Fleetwood.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Fourteenth Annual Report on the work carried out in the Health and Cleansing Department during the year 1956.

Cleansing Services

The figure of 509 tons of waste paper collected and sold during the year constitutes a record.

The three Paxit refuse removal vehicles continue to give good and economic service and are capable of providing a weekly collection service, despite the increasing population and the development of the Borough.

The purchase and use of a large capacity trailer for trade refuse has considerably contributed to a reduction in the number of loads of trade refuse removed, the reduction being 214 loads.

The acquisition of the new horizontal power baling press has been fully justified, considerable savings in time and money being effected.

The refuse disposal tip at Fleetwood Road is leased from the British Transport Commission at an annual rental of £100 and comprises 33 acres, approximately 20 acres have been completed and grassed over. The site is greatly improved by the tipping operations as it will be recalled that previously it was waterlogged.

The costs of operating the refuse collecting and disposal service compare very favourably with the average for other seaside holiday resorts, both as regards the tonnage disposed of and per 1,000 population. The three electrically propelled, pedestrian controlled street cleansing trucks are working satisfactorily and the delivery of the fourth vehicle should not be long delayed. This should enable our streets to be cleansed more frequently and effectively. Local experience has shown that this method of cleansing, two sweepers and the truck driver, is the most effective method. Our local expenditure figures again compare most favourably with the average of similar type authorities.

The considerable number of undeveloped plots of land, situated mainly on street or road junctions, which become overgrown with weeds and tall grass, present a serious problem, the seeds being carried by the wind to footways, entailing considerable expense in weeding and de-grassing. It is desirable to maintain the streets in a clean condition, and to keep the costs as low as possible, but this problem tends to increase costs. Another problem to which attention is directed is the dumping of unwanted household and garden waste, and even building debris, on the same plots of land and in back streets too. One morning a settee was dumped in a back street, this was followed, at short intervals, by the two easy chairs. It should be mentioned that the Cleansing Service will remove all household waste, and a request to the department will ensure the prompt removal of such material or articles.

Ice Cream

For the past two years the standard of purity of ice cream sold in the Borough, as revealed by bacteriological examination, has remained constant, i.e. Grades 1 and 2, 93%; Grades 3 and 4, 7%.

Housing.

The Department has continued the necessary survey work in connection with sub-standard dwelling houses.

Cleansing Staff

I wish to thank all members of the Public Cleansing Service for their good work. These men carry out their unpleasant duty conscientiously in all weathers, maintaining a regular service and thus contributing to the health and welfare of the whole community.

P. J. FISHER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Refuse Collection and Street Cleansing

Year ending 31st March, 1957

The collection of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority over the whole district. The collection from dwelling-houses is carried out weekly, from hotels and cafes twice weekly.

House refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping for the purpose of land reclamation, and every effort is made to keep down nuisances by covering the refuse with soil and other innocuous material.

Fish offal is collected by the local fish-meal manufacturers.

The weight of refuse has been computed in accordance with test weighings, at 19 cwt. per 1,000 of the population per day.

Street sweeping is carried out by means of pedestrian controlled, electrically propelled trucks, with 3 men to each truck.

The emptying of gullies is carried out by a vacuum gully emptier.

The following table gives particulars of the work carried out during the year ending 31st March, 1957 :—

Dustbins Emptied	- - - -	480,690.
Pail Closets Emptied	- - - -	1,171.
Street Gullies Cleansed	- - - -	6,183.
Loads Trade Refuse Removed	- - - -	1,380.
Total Loads Removed	- - - -	3,632.

CLEANSING SERVICE

Table showing Costs for the year ending 31st March, 1957

Item	Particulars	Refuse Collection and Disposal			Street Cleaning		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1	Gross Expenditure	22,524	0	0	6,319	0	0
2	Gross Income	5,802	0	0	15	0	0
	Net Costs	16,732	0	0	6,304	0	0
3	Net cost per 1,000 houses or premises	1,832	0	0	—	—	—
4	Net cost per 1,000 population	597	0	0	225	0	0
5	Net cost per ton	1	14	6	—	—	—
6	Net cost per 1,000 street gullies cleansed	—	—	—	35	0	0
7	Net cost per street mile cleansed	—	—	—	141	0	0
8	Net cost equivalent rate in £s	11.94	—	—	4.5	—	—

Summary of Salvage Collected and Values, 1941/42 to 1955/56

(From 1st April to 31st March in each period)

Year	Waste Paper		Kitchen Waste		Textiles		Metals		Bottles & Jars		Miscellaneous		Totals									
	Weight T. cwt.	Value £	Weight T. cwt.	Value £	Weight T. cwt.	Value £	Weight T. cwt.	Value £	Weight T. cwt.	Value £	Weight T. cwt.	Value £	Weight T. cwt.	Value £								
1941/42	307	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	1374	112	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	112	22	15 $\frac{3}{4}$	145	198	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	253	46	12	120	10	1	81	698	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2085	
1942/43	300	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1934	132	14 $\frac{3}{4}$	137	29	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	279	276	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	330	63	17	180	15	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	154	818	4	3014	
1943/44	250	19	1741	261	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	299	27	15	306	210	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	257	96	14	269	20	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	261	867	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	3133	
1944/45	209	8	1435	214	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	245	20	1	334	91	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	194	53	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	152	13	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	31	602	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2391	
1945/46	232	17 $\frac{3}{4}$	1533	173	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	174	23	3	304	32	17	86	44	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	161	5	12	27	511	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	2285	
1946/47	226	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	1505	8	117	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	118	15	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	228	14	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	43	41	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	266	4	13	8	420	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2168
1947/48	276	15	1867	131	0	132	12	12	179	13	2	39	33	13	219	1	11	11	468	13	2446	
1948/49	321	0	2282	143	9	144	12	6	237	12	7	51	22	8	158	4	6	6	515	16	2878	
1949/50	308	3	1683	136	13	226	10	11	208	6	0	44	4	2	18	9	1	1	465	18	2180	
1950/51	336	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	2514	58	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	119	9	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	183	16	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	63	5	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	8	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	428	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2900		
1951/52	384	11	6572	45	11 $\frac{3}{2}$	104	21	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	648	48	6	220	9	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	34	1	5	15	510	17	7503	
1952/53	341	15	2297	40	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	104	19	9	290	84	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	313	2	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	24	—	—	78	488	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	3106	
1953/54	391	4	2164	35	15	118	22	7	253	107	2	372	1	1	16	14	3	558	3	2926		
1954/55	422	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	2897	13	17	46	12	6	205	134	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	394	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	—	—	7	584	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	3553		
1955/56	478	1	4138	—	—	—	13	10	313	70	2	312	1	18	8	—	10	563	11	4781		
1956/57	509	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	4173	—	—	—	18	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	419	66	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	487	—	—	—	2	3	14	—	596	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	5093

Summary of Visits and Inspections for Year ending 31st December, 1956

General Sanitation:

Food and Food Premises:

Miscellaneous Acts:

Cleansing:

Housing and Public Health Acts:

Houses inspected:	(a) Under Public Health Acts	}	....	....	....	607
	(b) ,,, Housing Acts					
Re-inspections:	(a) Under Public Health Acts	}	....	....	....	486
	(b) Under Housing Acts					

The following table gives a classified list of the nuisances dealt with during the year :—

HOUSING :

External:

Drains cleansed or repaired ....	....	....	....	....	216
Soil pipes and vent. shafts repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	4
R.W.P. and R.W.G. repaired or renewed ....	....	....	....	....	25
Waste pipes repaired or renewed ....	....	....	....	....	9
Yards paved or repaired ....	....	....	....	....	8
Yard walls repaired or rebuilt ....	....	....	....	....	5
House walls repaired or rebuilt ....	....	....	....	....	34
Roofs repaired and made weatherproof	....	....	....	....	25
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt ....	....	....	....	....	7
Houses provided with sanitary dustbins	....	....	....	....	270
Yards cleansed and accummulations removed....	....	....	....	....	4
Yard doors repaired or renewed ....	....	....	....	....	2

Internal:

Floors relaid or repaired ....	....	....	....	....	23
Sub-floor ventilation improved	....	....	....	....	—
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	....	....	....	....	33
Defective stairs repaired ....	....	....	....	....	—
Handrails provided to stairs ....	....	....	....	....	—
Windows repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	47
Doors repaired or renewed ....	....	....	....	....	4
New sinks or washbasins provided	....	....	....	....	10
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	9
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	4
Houses cleansed	....	....	....	....	—
Cases of overcrowding abated	....	....	....	....	60
Dampness abated	....	....	....	....	4
Food stores provided ....	....	....	....	....	—
Baths provided	....	....	....	....	—
Back boilers renewed	....	....	....	....	—
Wash boilers repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	—

Waterclosets:

Structures repaired or rebuilt ....	....	....	....	....	4
Waterclosets cleansed or limewashed....	....	....	....	....	—
Pedestals or seats renewed ....	....	....	....	....	11
Flush pipes repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	2
Cisterns repaired or renewed....	....	....	....	....	5

Various:

Premises Limewashed	....	....	....	....	—
Additional Sanitary Accommodation provided	....	....	....	....	5
Existing Sanitary Accommodation repaired or cleansed	....	....	....	....	1
Floors repaired	....	....	....	....	—
Intervening ventilator space provided....	....	....	....	....	—
Food premised cleansed or painted ....	....	....	....	....	—
.. W.C. compartments limewashed	....	....	....	....	—
.. Washing facilities improved ...	....	....	....	....	15

Shops Acts, 1950

During the year, 47 visits were made to shop premises under the above Acts.

Half-Holiday and Closing Orders

There are orders in force in the Borough fixing Wednesday as the weekly half-holiday, this conforms with all the other local authorities in the Fylde area. In addition there are several orders dealing with closing hours for the various trades. As Fleetwood is a seaside resort there is in force the usual seasonal extension of hours order which applies to those shops on the seaward side of the Esplanade.

Disinfestation

The furniture and effects of all tenants removing into Corporation houses is transported by the Corporation Health Department in a special van acquired for the purpose. During the course of their removal the furniture, etc., is fumigated by H.C.N. gas in the van.

During the year 1956 the number of removals were 133 and the number of houses fumigated were 13.

Bedding is treated in the steam disinfecter.

Houses found to be infested with vermin are treated by D.D.T./Lethane and D.D.T. and gaseous generators.

The Council possess the necessary apparatus for the de-infestation of infested bedding or furniture either by H.C.N. or Steam. The service also deals with moth infested carpets or furniture and is much appreciated. A charge is made to cover the cost.

Rodent Control

Due to the energetic work carried on since the inception of rodent control in the early years of the late war it can be stated that rodent infestation is no longer the problem that it formerly was. This is indicated by the reducing number of complaints, both at business premises and at private houses. It will, however, be necessary to continue repression work in order to maintain this satisfactory position. The Corporation employ one full time operator.

The Inland Docks and Waterways Authority employ 1 operative full-time. Full co-operation exists between the two authorities. The methods used are those recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and chiefly consist of the pre-baiting and poison-baiting method. Care is of course taken in protecting the poison-bait against misuse.

The action taken during the year is as follows :—

Dwelling Houses

Number of major infestations by Rats	....	....	56
" " minor	....	....	55
,, , infestations by Mice	....	....	124

Business Premises

Number of major infestations by Rats	....	....	30
" " minor	....	....	7
,, , infestations by Mice	....	....	23

Treatments Carried Out

Type of Premises	Rats	Mice Only
Dwelling Houses	111	124
Business Premises	37	23

The sewers were test-baited and were found to be free from infestation. The reason for this being that the sewers are frequently surcharged.

Housing

Number of new houses erected during the year:

Total	155
(1) By the Local Authority....	70
(2) By other bodies or persons	85

(1) Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	607
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made made for the purpose	1093
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being fit :-	
(a) No. found during year	—
(b) No. (or estimated no.) at end of year	—
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	130

(2) Clearance Areas. (Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs Rents Act, 1954)

(1) No. of dwelling-houses demolished during year	
(a) Unfit houses	—
(b) Other houses	—
(2) No. of persons displaced	—

(3) Houses not included in Clearance Area :-

	No. of	
	Houses	Persons Displaced
(a) Housing Act, 1936		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)....	—	—
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	—	—
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	2	10
(b) Housing Act, 1949		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2)	—	—
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :-		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	—	—

(2) Repairs during the year :-

(a)	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	....	....	....	....	138
(b)	Public Health Acts-action after service of formal notice-Houses in which defects were remedied :-					
	(i) By owners	....	....	....	....	3
	(ii) By local authority in default of owners	....				1
(c)	Housing Acts, 1936 - action after service formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) Houses made fit :-					
	(i) By owners	....	....	....	....	12
	(ii) By local authority in default of owners	....				1
(d)	Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954 :- Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	....	....			—
'4)	Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954) :-					
(1)	No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	....				—
(2)	No. of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	....				—
(3)	No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	....	....	....	....	—

(5) Housing Act, 1949- Improvement Grants etc. :-

Action during the year :

- (a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority
- (b) Submitted by local authority to Ministry
- (c) Finally approved by Ministry
- (d) Work completed
- (e) Additional separate dwellings included in (d) above

Private bodies or individuals	Local Authority			
	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	No. of Schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
	26	26	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	19	19	—	—
	—	—	—	—

Overcrowding

(4) Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding :—

(a)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	....	....	....	....	....	49
(b)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	....	....	....	....	....	60
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	....					180

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supply

The dairies, and milkshops have been visited 98 times, and in each case were invariably found to be in a clean condition.

During the year 1956 twelve samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. These samples were found to be negative.

Twenty eight samples of milk were submitted for the phosphatase and methylene blue tests and eight for the turbidity test and all of these were satisfactory.

Food Inspection

During the year 973 visits were made to premises where foods are prepared or sold.

There are no slaughter-houses in the district.

The weight of meat and other foods destroyed or otherwise disposed of during the year as unfit for food was 2 tons 17 cwts.

Premises where the curing of fish is carried on have been visited on 72 occasions, and have invariably been found in a clean condition.

Fish offal is received by the local Fish Meal Works, for processing

Ice Cream

During the year 141 visits were paid to premises where Ice Cream was manufactured or sold. The premises numbered 76, made up of 4 manufacturers and 72 retailers of Ice Cream manufactured elsewhere.

There were 69 samples submitted for bacteriological examination and the following indicate that the high standard of purity of this commodity, sold in the Borough is being maintained.

1956

Grade 1	84·05%}	92·75%
2	8·70%}	
3	5·80%}	7·25%
4	1·45%}	

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1938

By the courtesy of the Lancashire County Council, the following particulars of the samples taken by the County Sanitary Officer under the Food and Drugs Act, in Fleetwood during the year 1956, are given :—

Description of samples	No. samples taken	Description of samples	No. samples taken
Milk	82	Double cream	1
Compound Codeine Tablets ...	2	Saccharin tablets	2
Arrowroot	2	Orange and pineapple crush...	1
Pork Sausages	1	Pancake and Yorkshire	
Lemon Pie Filling	1	pudding mix,	1
Custard Powder	1	Chicory and coffee	
Malt, milk and cocoa beverage	1	extract mix.	1
Tea	2	Sauce	1
Boracic ointment	2	Pork luncheon meat	2
Flavouring	2	Licquorice powder	2
Oranges	1	White Pepper	2
Wholemeal bread	1	Grapefruit	1
Bread	1	Cheese	4
Canned vegetables	2	Ice cream	5
Sausage rolls...	2	Tomato juice	1
Meat paste	1	Salmon paste...	1
Mincemeat	2	Beef suet	1
Brandy	1	Whiskey	4
Mixed spice	2	Pickles	1
Mint sauce	1	Ground ginger	1

All the samples were submitted for analysis and were reported to be genuine, with the exception of the following :-

Formal Milk Freezing point indicated presence of 0.5% extraneous water. Vendor cautioned.
Further sample obtained.

Ice Cream Milk solids other than fat only 7.2% Vendor interviewed,
further sample obtained

Cheese "Edam" Paraffin wax in sample 0.72% equivalent to 0.24% in the whole cheese. No action taken.

Formal Milk Freezing point indicates presence of 1.6% extraneous water. Vendor cautioned.
Further sample obtained.

Factories Act, 1937

Part I of the Act

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health :—

Premises	No. on register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	21	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	155	181	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Total	172	202	—	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector	Referred by H. M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness	5	5	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature....	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :					
Insufficient	5	5	—	1	—
Unsuitable or defective	11	11	—	1	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Offences against the Act	—	—	—	—	—
Total	22	22	—	2	—

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

The outwork consists of the manufacture of nets, other than wire nets and, according to the returns made in the August lists 8 out-workers were engaged in this trade. There were no cases of default in sending in lists and accordingly no prosecutions.

No work took place in unwholesome premises.

Common Lodging House

There is only one common lodging house registered with the Council, which is situated in Dock Street. There is sleeping accommodation for 43 men.

PORT HEALTH REPORT

To the Chairman and Members of the Fleetwood Port Health Authority

August, 1957

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report, combined with the Report of the Port Health Inspector, for the year 1956.

This Report is prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health, Form Port 20.

Water Supply

Since the new overhead water main was constructed by the British Transport Commission it is pleasing to note the consequent improvement in the quality of the drinking water.

Sampling of water supplied for drinking purposes on the dock has been continued throughout the year, both in connection with the shore supplies and the fresh water supply on the trawlers. The condition of the fresh water tanks on trawlers has been consistently watched.

The continued co-operation of the Fishing Vessel Owners especially in connection with the improvement in the quality of the drinking water carried on vessels has been much appreciated.

I wish to thank the Port Health Inspectors for their co-operation during the year.

I again acknowledge the continued co-operation of the local Customs Officers and Water Guard in connection with infectious disease aboard ships. I am particularly grateful for the promptitude of their notification of suspected vessels and assistance in dealing with these cases.

J. COLGAN,

Medical Officer of Health

Section I.—Staff

Table A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any Other Appointments Held
Dr. J. Colgan	Port Medical Officer	1st January 1922	M. D., B.Ch., B.A.O.	M. O.H., Borough, (Part Time)
Dr. K. H. Sykes	Deputy Port Medical Officer	1st October, 1955.	M. B., Ch.B.	(Part Time)
P. J. Fisher	Chief Port Health Inspector	1st July, 1942	F.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.	Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough
J. Mitchell	Assistant Port Health Inspector	1st April 1947	M. R.S.H.	—

Section II.—Amount of Shipping entering the Port Health District during the Year 1956
Table B.

Vessels	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of Ships Reported as Having or Having Had During the Voyage, Infectious Disease on Board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Health Inspector	
Foreign	Steam	28	9,229	—	—
	Motor	—	—	3	—
	Sailing	—	—	—	—
	Fishing	1	45	—	—
Total Foreign	...	29	9,274	—	—
Coastwise	Steam	904	387,826	—	—
	Motor	—	—	4	—
	Sailing	—	—	—	—
	Fishing	2,224	235,381	4	370
Total Coastwise	...	3,128	623,207	4	374
Total Foreign and Coastwise	...	3,157	632,481	4	377

Section III—Character of Shipping & Trade during the Year

Table C.

Passenger Traffic :—	{ No. of Passengers Inwards	137,170
	No. of Passengers Outwards	134,134
Cargo Traffic :—	{ Principal Imports : Fish, Carbide	
	Principal Exports : Nil.	
Principal Ports from which ships arrive : Port Talbot, Isle of Man (Fish from various Fishing Grounds).		

Section IV.—Inland Barge Traffic

Nil.

Section V.—Water Supply

The fresh water supply of the port, and for shipping, is derived direct from the mains of the Fylde Water Board.

Examination of samples of water from the Dock show that this water is not suitable for the washing of fish or fish boxes, or any receptacles or utensils which come into contact with fish.

The sampling of drinking water on fishing vessels and other shipping continued, 106 samples were taken of which 12 were reported as being contaminated.

The owners were informed and immediate steps taken to remedy, this being confirmed by subsequent samples.

There are no Water Boats at this port.

Section VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

(1) List of Infected Areas.

A list is received weekly from the Ministry of Health, of infected areas, and, when necessary, a copy is forwarded to the local Customs and Water Guard Officers.

(2) Radio Messages

Facilities are available for radio messages to be sent to, or received from, ships outside the port, via Seaforth radio.

(3) Notification otherwise than by Radio.

The Medical Officer of Health or Port Health Inspector is notified by the Harbour Authorities or Customs Officers of any illness that occurs on any vessel entering the Port. The telegraphic address to the Port Health Authority is "Portelth, Fleetwood."

(4) Mooring Stations.

The mooring station for vessels found to be infected with plague, cholera or yellow fever has been fixed at a position in the River Lune, Wyre Lighthouse, bearing 192°, distant 9½ cables.

A mooring berth, within the harbour area, for suspected or infected ships, has been fixed at No. 6 Coaling Berth within the Fish Dock.

Standing exemption, provided the answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 in the Declaration of Health are in the negative and the ship has not called at an infected port or seaboard, is granted in respect of the following notifiable diseases :—

Acute polio-encephalitis	Erysipelas
Cerebro-spinal-meningitis (cerebro-spinal fever)	German measles
Continued fever	Measles
Dysentery	Pneumonia (primary or influenzal)
Epidemic infantile paralysis (acute poliomyelitis)	Relapsing fever
Encephalitis lethargica	Scarlet fever
	Tuberculosis (all forms)
	Typhoid fever (enteric fever)

Owing to the small number of vessels arriving from foreign ports no difficulty is experienced in carrying out the provisions of Article 16 of the Regulations.

(5) (a) Hospital accommodation for Infectious Disease.

There is an arrangement with the Liverpool Hospital Authority for the admission to their hospital of certain specific cases of tropical disease, occurring on vessels.

Other infectious cases requiring admission to hospital come under local arrangements.

(b) Surveillance of contacts:

The contacts of any infectious disease case are kept under observation by the Health Officers of the Local Authority.

(c) Cleansing and Disinfection of Ships, Persons, etc.

A steam disinfecter is provided by the Local Authority for disinfecting clothing and bedding. Facilities also exist for the cleansing of persons, and also for the disinfection of ships.

Section VII.—Smallpox.

(1) Cases of smallpox can be sent to the Elswick Smallpox Hospital.

(2) Any such cases would be transported to hospital by ambulances of the Lancashire County Council.

(3) The smallpox consultants available are as per the Ministry of Health panel for Manchester Regional Hospital Area, No. 13

(4) Facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall, Manchester.

Section VIII.—Venereal Disease.

Treatment is arranged for venereal disease at the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool; and the Royal Infirmary, Preston, at special sessions.

Section IX—Cases of Notifiable and Infectious Disease on Ships.

No case of notifiable or infectious disease occurred on any vessel entering the port during the year.

Section X—Malaria in Ships

No cases of malaria occurred on any ship entering the port during the year.

Section XI.—Plague in Ships.

No case of plague or suspected plague occurred on any ship entering the port during the year.

Section XII.—Measures against Rodents

No action was necessary against rodents in any foreign ships entering the port during the year.

If necessary, facilities are available for the bacteriological examination of rats.

Local Measures Against Rodents

The work of rodent repression is carried out by full-time operators employed by the Dock and Inland Waterways Executive who own the Dock Estate, and with co-operation from the Local Authority.

Section XIII.—Inspection of Ships for Nuisance.
Table G. Inspections and Notices

Nature and Number of Inspections	Notices Served			Result of Serving Notices
	Statutory	Other	Other	
Crew's quarters requiring cleansing, painting, etc.	8	—	—	
Crew's quarters damp from leaky deck, broken or defective light, etc.	—	—	—	
Dirty companionways	2	—	—	
Dirty food lockers and pantries	4	—	—	
Leaking decks	—	—	—	
Broken woodwork	—	—	—	
Defective ventilators	—	—	—	
Fresh water tanks cleansed	—	—	—	
Vessels infested with rats	94	—	—	
Defective stove or stove pipe	30	—	—	
Vessels fumigated	4	—	—	
Dirty bunks and bedding	8	—	—	
Dirty galleries	6	—	—	
Dirty Cooking utensils	16	—	—	
Defective Water Closets	5	—	—	
Total	2	—	—	
	179	—	—	

Section XIV—Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations 1934 & 1948

All of the shell-fish beds within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority are liable to pollution. Notices are exhibited prohibiting the taking of shellfish from these beds for human consumption. A local order was made in 1939, closing all shell fish beds, within the port health area. Samples of shellfish are taken at regular intervals and sent for bacteriological examination, these invariably indicate consistently heavy sewage contamination.

Section XV.—Imported Food Regulations.

According to the figures given by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the weight and values of fish landed at Fleetwood during the year were as follows :—

		1956	
		Values	Weights
		£	Cwts.
Wet fish ....	....	....	4,420,396 1,200,831
Shell-fish ....	....	....	7,914 2,316
			<hr/>
		4,428,310	1,203,147
			<hr/>

The enforcement of the Imported Food Regulations is a very important duty in a port such as this, where large quantities of fish are landed daily, and this is especially so if the high standard of quality for which the port is noted is to be maintained. The amount surrendered during the year was 9,805 cwts. comprised of the various fish as set out in the list herewith. There is a considerable reduction in quantity of shellfish landed.

It is pleasing to note that the improvement in the quality of the fish landed during the year, has been maintained.

It is worthy of mention, too that all engaged in the fish trade, from trawler owner to fish merchant, are endeavouring to produce an edible foodstuff under hygienic conditions. These improvements have sprung mainly from within the industry. Reference should be made to the replacement of the wooden kits and boxes by those made of metal, thus facilitating cleansing.

The relations between this department and the fishing industry are such that it has not been found necessary in a single instance to obtain a Magistrate's Order to enforce our requirements.

The following table gives the weight of fish landed and rejected under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations each year from 1947 to 1956 inclusive :—

Year	Weight landed	Weight rejected		
		cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1947	2,238,083	42,198	3	0
1948	2,062,743	35,957	2	14
1949	1,877,442	34,702	1	0
1950	1,342,931	19,233	0	0
1951	1,332,314	8,280	3	7
1952	1,326,552	6,452	2	0
1953	1,257,307	8,078	2	0
1954	1,093,596	5,485	0	0
1955	1,219,944	11,452	0	0
1956	1,203,147	9,805	0	0

The following is a list of the various kinds of fish rejected under the unsound food regulations as unfit for food and sent to the local fish meal works for disposal :—

	Cwts.	Qrs.
Bream	35	2
Bergylt....	—	—
Brill	—	—
Catfish....	5	0
Cod	1,438	1
Coalfish	5,275	3
Dogfish	42	1
Dabs	4	0
Eels	—	—
Gurnards	38	2
Haddock	1,700	1
Halibut	9	1
Hake	65	2
Herring	—	—
Lemon Soles	140	0
Ling	16	3
Mackerel	—	—
Megrims	18	0
Mixed fish	431	0
Monkfish	1	1
Plaice....	138	0
Pollack	4	0

			Cwts.	Qrs.
Roes ....	....	....	26	3
Roker ....	....	....	103	0
Shellfish	....	....	—	—
Skate ....	....	....	—	—
Soles ....	....	....	9	2
Torsk ....	....	....	—	—
Whiting	....	....	300	2
Witches	....	....	2	0
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			9,805	0
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Imported Meat.

During the year the importation of meat and offal from Eire and Northern Ireland continued. The quantities and values being as follows:—

		Tons.
Beef and Beef Offal	....	422
Mutton and Mutton Offal	....	143
Pork and Pork Offal	....	365
		<hr/>
		930
		<hr/>

The meat was packed in sealed containers, being landed on the quay side and placed on railway vehicles. Approximately 10% of the containers were opened and examined, the general procedure being to work in conjunction with H.M. Customs Officer.

On all occasions the Public Health Departments of the areas to which the meat was consigned were notified by post, such information included the name and address of the consignee.

Premises on Harbour and Dock

During the year, 375 visits were made to various premises, which included 13 visits to the fish meal and oil works.

The following table gives the number of instances in which nuisances or defects were found:—

Dirty conveniences	....	....	....	5
Defective conveniences	....	....	....	13
Choked drains	....	....	....	42
Accumulations	....	....	....	19
Portion of fish stage not properly cleansed				23
Defective rain-water pipes	....	....	....	8
Dirty floors....	....	....	....	13
Premises requiring limewashing	....	....	....	12
				<hr/>
				135
				<hr/>

